



TENNESSEE  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
SERVICE

P.O. Box 41505  
Nashville, TN 37204-1505  
1-800-626-0987  
<http://www.nass.usda.gov/tn>

cooperating with  
Tennessee  
Department  
of Agriculture

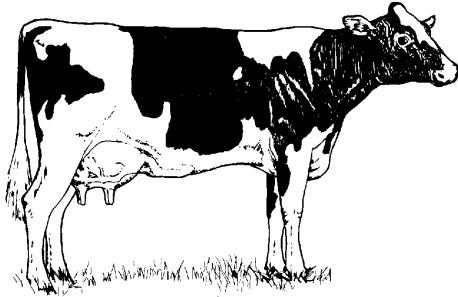


# FARM FACTS

**Debra K. Kenerson**  
State Statistician

RELEASED: APRIL 20, 2001 VOL. 00 NO. 08

## MILK PRODUCTION



**Tennessee Milk Production:** January-March quarterly production of milk was 350 million pounds, down 8 percent from the January-March period in 2000. The average number of milk cows was 93,000 head, 3,000 head less than the same period a year earlier.

October-December 2000 quarterly production of milk at 340 million pounds, was down 1 percent from the October-December period in 1999. The average number of milk cows for the quarter was 94,000 head, 1,000 head less than the same period a year earlier.

**Milk Cows and Production: Selected States and United States,  
Preliminary January-March, 2000-2001**

State	Jan-Mar Milk Cows <sup>1</sup>		Jan-Mar Milk Production <sup>2</sup>		Change From 2000
	2000	2001	2000	2001	
	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	Million Pounds	Million Pounds	Percent
Alabama	26	22	104	86	-17.3
Arkansas	42	39	141	125	-11.3
Georgia	88	86	402	387	-3.7
Kentucky	131	128	451	426	-5.5
Mississippi	36	36	162	148	-8.6
Missouri	157	148	599	517	-13.7
North Carolina	72	68	316	299	-5.4
<b>Tennessee</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>380</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>-7.9</b>
Virginia	120	118	505	481	-4.8
United States	9,188	9,155	42,630	41,326	-3.1

<sup>1</sup> Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. <sup>2</sup> Excludes milk sucked by calves.

**United States Milk Production:** The quarterly production of milk for the U.S. was 41.3 billion pounds, 3.1 percent below the January-March period last year. The average number of milk cows in the U.S. during the January-March quarter was 9.16 million head, 33,000 head less than the same period last year.

Milk production in the 20 major States during March totaled 12.4 billion pounds, down 2.2 percent from March 2000. February revised production, at 11.1 billion pounds, was down 5.0 percent from February 2000. However, adjusting production for leap year would put February milk production down 1.6 percent. The February revision represented a decrease of 0.7 percent or 82 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate.

## Inside This Issue

<b>Milk Production</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>U.S. Orange Production</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>U.S. Vegetables</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>U.S. Slaughter</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>National Agricultural Summary</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>U. S. Poultry Slaughter</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>U.S. Chicken &amp; Eggs</b> .....	<b>4</b>

**U.S. Orange Production:** The U.S. all orange April 1 forecast for the 2000-01 crop is 12.4 million tons, down less than 1 percent from the March forecast and 5 percent below last season's revised utilization of 13.0 million tons. Florida's all orange forecast is increased to 224 million boxes (10.1 million tons), up less than 1 percent from last month but 4 percent lower than the 1999-2000 final utilization. The early and mid-season orange forecast, at 128 million boxes (5.76 million tons), is 1 percent higher than the March forecast, but 4 percent below the previous season. Harvest is complete. Florida's Valencia forecast, at 96.0 million boxes (4.32 million tons), is unchanged from March but 3 percent lower than last season's final utilization. The Valencia growth rate during March increased more than during the past two months. However, loss from droppage also increased more than the previous two months. Both size and drop are below average in the 10-season series. Harvest has progressed to 15 percent complete.

The all orange forecast for California, at 57.0 million boxes (2.14 million tons), is down 3 percent from the January forecast and 11 percent below last season's revised utilization of 64.0 million boxes (2.40 million tons). California's Navel orange forecast remains at 34.0 million boxes (1.28 million tons), 15 percent below the previous season. Harvest is approaching 80 percent complete. Quality has remained good with large fruit size. California's Valencia forecast is decreased to 23.0 million boxes (863,000 tons), 8 percent below the January forecast and 4 percent lower than the previous season's revised utilization of 24.0 million boxes (900,000 tons). Fruit set is down in the Central Valley. Harvest is just underway and good fruit size is evident.

**U.S. Fresh and Processed Vegetables:** The prospective area for harvest of 13 selected fresh market vegetables during the spring quarter is forecast at 230,300 acres, up 8 percent from last year. Acreage increases for broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, celery, head lettuce, bell peppers, and tomatoes more than offset decreases for snap beans, sweet corn, cucumbers, and eggplant. Acreage for escarole/endive remained the same. Acreage for spring harvest of 3 selected melons is forecast at 89,300 acres, down 9 percent from last year. Cantaloup, honeydews, and watermelon were down 4, 9, and 12 percent, respectively. Asparagus acreage for spring harvest is forecast at 71,400 acres, down 7 percent from last year. Strawberry acreage for spring harvest is projected at 31,550 acres, down 8 percent from 2000.

Processors expect to contract 1.18 million acres of the five major vegetable crops in the U.S. this year, down 14 percent from last year. Decreases are forecast for snap beans, sweet corn, green peas, and tomatoes with cucumbers for pickles showing an increase. Freezing firms expect a 5 percent decrease, with 400,600 acres under contract. Green pea acreage is down 20 percent, while sweet corn acreage is up 2 percent, and snap bean acreage is up 12 percent. Canneries contracted for 781,390 acres, down 18 percent from last year. Both snap bean and sweet corn acreage is down 22 percent, green pea acreage is down 33 percent, and tomato acreage is down 14 percent from last year. Cucumbers for pickles acreage is up 7 percent from 2000.

Total planted onion acreage for all seasons in 2001 is forecast at 170,110 acres, a loss of 4 percent from last year. Spring Onions will be harvested from 37,100 acres in 2001, up 2 percent from last year. Georgia and Texas combined for a production forecast of 7.30 million cwt, 1 percent below last year. Summer non-storage onion acreage, at 21,600 acres, is down 5 percent, while total summer onion acreage at 131,910 acres is down 3 percent from the previous year.

**U.S. Livestock Slaughter:** Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.40 billion pounds in February, down 10 percent from the 3.77 billion pounds produced in February 2000. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.58 million head, down 12 percent from February 2000. The average live weight was down 7 pounds from the previous year, at 1,218 pounds. Calf slaughter totaled 79,000 head, down 17 percent from February 2000. The average live weight was 10 pounds above last year, at 328 pounds. Hog kill totaled 7.60 million head, 6 percent below February 2000. The average live weight was 2 pounds above the previous year, at 264 pounds. Sheep slaughter totaled 245,000 head, 16 percent below the same time last year. The average live weight was 143 pounds, up 5 pounds from February a year ago.

# Livestock Slaughter<sup>1</sup>: United States, February 2000 and 2001

Species	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001
	1,000 Head		1,000 Pounds		Pounds	
Cattle	2,937	2,580	3,598,133	3,141,619	1,225	1,218
Calves	95	79	30,170	25,878	318	328
Hogs	8,077	7,604	2,112,676	2,005,293	262	264
Sheep & lambs	294	245	40,518	35,190	138	143

<sup>1</sup> Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other commercial slaughter (excludes farm slaughter).

## National Agricultural Summary April 9-15, 2001

**Corn:** Planting advanced to 5 percent complete, behind last year's 9-percent progress, but equal to the 5-year average for this date. Heavy rain prevented planting in the western Corn Belt and limited progress in parts of the eastern Corn Belt. However, planting rapidly accelerated along the Ohio River Valley, where a pocket of dry weather aided progress. Planting progress was near normal in Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio. In Kentucky and Tennessee, planting progressed ahead of normal, as growers planted about one-fifth of their acreage during the week. Dry weather also aided rapid progress on the Atlantic Coastal Plains, where North Carolina producers planted 30 percent of their corn crop during the week. The planting pace accelerated in Texas, as warm, dry weather quickly reduced excessive soil moisture. However, planting remained well behind the 5-year average.

**Cotton:** Planting was 9 percent complete, slightly behind last year's pace, but equal to the 5-year average. Dry weather aided progress in the Southwest, although some growers delayed planting due to abnormally cold weather. In Arizona, growers planted 12 percent of their crop, while California producers planted just 5 percent of their acreage. Field preparations gradually accelerated in the southern Great Plains, and planting progressed with few delays in central and southern Texas. Planting accelerated in the lower Mississippi Valley and Southeast early in the week, but rain halted progress in most areas after midweek. Despite rain delays, progress remained ahead of normal in Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi.

### Corn: Percent Planted, Selected States <sup>1</sup>

State	Week Ending			1996-2000 Avg.
	Apr 15, 2001	Apr 8, 2001	Apr 15, 2000	
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
CO	1	0	1	2
IL	5	1	12	5
IN	3	1	4	2
IA	0	0	2	1
KS	11	2	18	9
KY	24	5	26	16
MI	0	0	0	0
MN	0	0	2	1
MO	13	5	49	22
NE	0	0	3	1
NC	40	10	36	37
ND	0	0	0	0
OH	3	1	2	3
PA	0	0	2	1
SD	0	0	0	0
TN	37	15	34	33
TX	42	37	60	55
WI	0	0	0	0

### Cotton: Percent Planted, Selected States <sup>1</sup>

State	Week Ending			1996-2000 Avg.
	Apr 15, 2001	Apr 8, 2001	Apr 15, 2000	
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AL	7	0	5	10
AZ	36	24	37	36
AR	1	0	0	0
CA	30	25	61	33
GA	2	1	4	4
LA	6	0	1	2
MS	5	1	0	1
MO	0	0	0	0
NC	0	0	2	3
OK	0	0	0	0
SC	2	1	7	4
TN	0	0	0	1
TX	12	11	13	11
VA	0	0	0	1

18 Sts	5	2	9	5
--------	---	---	---	---

<sup>1</sup> These 18 States planted 92% of last year's corn acreage.

14 Sts.	9	7	11	9
---------	---	---	----	---

<sup>1</sup> These 14 States planted 98% of last year's cotton acreage.

**U.S. 2000 Poultry Slaughter:** Poultry Certified Wholesome under Federal Inspection during 2000 (ready-to-cook) weight totaled 36.6 billion pounds, up 2 percent from the total amount certified during 1999. Young chickens, at 30.5 billion pounds, accounted for 83 percent of the total pounds certified ready-to-cook and were up 3 percent from 1999. The average live weight for young chickens increased slightly from 4.99 pounds to 5.00 pounds. Total turkeys, at 5.40 billion pounds, represented 15 percent of the overall total and were up 2 percent from 1999. The average live weight for total turkeys increased 1 percent to 25.6 pounds per bird. The remaining 2 percent of pounds certified ready-to-cook were mature chickens, ducks, and other poultry.

**U.S. Egg Production Down 2 Percent:** U.S. egg production totaled 6.52 billion during February 2001, down 2 percent from last year. Production included 5.51 billion table eggs and 1.01 billion hatching eggs, of which 947 million were broiler-type and 60.0 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during February 2001 averaged 336 million, up 2 percent from the total average number of layers during February 2000. February egg production per 100 layers was 1,943 eggs, down 4 percent from 2,016 eggs in February 2000. All layers in the U.S. on March 1, 2001, totaled 336 million, up 2 percent from a year ago. The 336 million layers consisted of 276 million layers producing table or commercial type eggs, 56.8 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.78 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on March 1, 2001, averaged 69.5 eggs per 100 layers, down slightly from the 69.8 eggs a year ago.

#### Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced, Selected States and United States, During February 2000 and 2001

Selected States	Table Egg Layers in Flocks 30,000 or more		All Layers <sup>1</sup>		Eggs per 100 for All Layers <sup>1</sup>	
	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001
	Thousands				Number	
Alabama	3,313	2,798	10,580	10,232	1,786	1,759
Arkansas	5,008	5,341	15,483	15,578	1,847	1,785
Georgia	11,963	11,440	21,139	20,749	1,954	1,827
North Carolina	3,593	3,552	11,487	11,271	1,785	1,739
All Other States <sup>2</sup>	240,968	247,152	271,154	277,708	2,054	1,976
United States	264,845	270,283	329,843	335,538	2,016	1,943

<sup>1</sup> Includes all layers and eggs produced in both table egg and hatching egg flocks regardless of size. <sup>2</sup> Tennessee included in other states.